

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Taylor et al.

Reissue Application for  
U.S. Patent No. 5,891,143  
issued April 6, 1999

Art Unit:

Examiner:

Serial No.: 954,003

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For: ORTHOPAEDIC FIXATION PLATE

April 5, 2001  
Attorney Docket No. 39262/256238

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Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This preliminary amendment is respectfully submitted in connection with the above-referenced application.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Kindly re-write the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) An orthopaedic spatial fixation system for holding bone parts comprising a plurality of fixation plates wherein each plate includes a body portion having n attachment structures positioned therein, whereby said attachment structures are substantially positioned along an arc of  $\alpha^\circ$  of a circle defined by a diameter d, and the cord length between adjacent attachment structures is substantial equal to l, and

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